

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 13-20 directed to the Group non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 13-20 has been cancelled.

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The applied prior art of record may disclose the metal claimed in the present claimed invention as chemical sensitizer for silver halide grains. However, none of them disclose the silver halide having iridium and the other metal such as iron, copper, rhodium and ruthenium distribution in the core and shell of the silver halide grains claimed in the present claimed invention to improve the photothermographic property such as print out property such as being presented in the Tables of the specification disclosure and in the Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 submitted on August 23, 2005.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thorl Chea whose telephone number is (571) 272-1328. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia H. Kelly can be reached on (571)272-1526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TC
2008-04-07

/Thorl Chea/
Primary Examiner,
Art Unit 1795